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**Reducing friction in leather mfr. wet processes - by adding water-soluble esp. carboxyl gp.-contg. polymer as lubricant**

**MATERIALS**  
The polymers are esp. COOH gp.-contg. polymers, e.g. polymers of (meth)acrylic acid, partly saponified poly(meth)acrylate, poly(meth)acrylonitrile, poly(meth)acryl- amide, CMC, maleic anhydride copolymers.

Friction in wet processes of leather mfr. is reduced by adding, as lubricant, 0.05-2 g/l of a water-soluble polymer having Frikentscher K-value no less than 150.

**USE**  
Wet processes include soaking to liming, de-liming, pickling, tanning and dyeing.

**ADVANTAGE**

Skin and pelt friction against vessel walls is reduced. The grain obt'd. is fine-pored, closed and smooth. Further working is not impaired. The hides are cleaner; dyeings are more level and brighter. The settling of solids in waste water is accelerated. Improved lubrication in tanning, improves the distribution of chemicals and slows down temp. rise. Hide and pelt tangling in Y-vessels and mixers is prevented. In post-tanning, esp. of thin leather, knotting is prevented even with full loading. Waste by tear is reduced. Energy consumption for rotating the vat is reduced.

**EXAMPLE**  
Cowhide was soaked in a mixer contg. 100% water at 25-28 deg. C and 0.2% of a 25% soln. of an Na salt of a 36/64 acrylic acid/acrylamide copolymer having K-value 220. No tangling took place in fully loaded mixer, nor on discharge after milling (4 pp200).

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